

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8501

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 248

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMAT LANGUAGE AREA TRAINEES

REF: 75 STATE 299307,

ACCORDING TO JAPANESE EMBOFF ORITA, THERE ARE NOW FOUR JAPANESE DIPLOMAT-STUDENTS AT MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY (MGU), UP FROM TWO IN THE PREVIOUS TWO YEARS OF THIS PROGRAM. ALL ARE CONSIDERED TO BE DIPLOMATS WITH FULL CUSTOMS PRIVILEGES, SAID ORITA. THEY ARE FORMALLY ASSIGNED TO THE EMBASSY HERE AND ARE LISTED IN THE DIPLOMATIC LIST. ORITA SAID THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY "TROUBLE" OVER CUSTOMS PRIVILEGES. THE ONLY PROBLEM HE KNEW OF WAS THE SOVIET INSISTENCE THAT THESE DIPLOMAT-STUDENTS NOT BE HOUSED IN UNIVERSITY DORMITORIES, WHICH THE JAPANESE WOULD PREFER. BUT THIS WAS A QUESTION OF RECIPROCITY, HE SAID, BECAUSE TOKYO UNIVERSITY WAS UNWILLING TO PROVIDE UNIVERSITY HOUSING FOR THE SOVIET STUDENTS STUDYING THERE. SO THE JAPANESE STUDYING THERE HAVE THE SAME SORT OF APARTMENTS AS OTHER PERSONS ASSIGNED TO THE EMBASSY. MATLOCK

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